INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

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Food and Drug Committee to Present Report to Board

The Association's Special Committee to Review the Enforcement of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act met at the N.C.A. headquarters in Washington on October 14 and 15, and considered the measures now pending in Congress to amend the Act. The group also discussed the present administration of the Act. The Committee will present its report at the meeting of the Association's Board of Directors on November 14.

A food consumption study will be conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, under the Research and Marketing Act of 1946, for the purpose of improving the American diet and expanding consumption of agricultural products.

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Meetings will be held at Chicago, Ill., November 11 to 12 to discuss Food and Drug standards for canned asparagus, corn, and green and wax beans. (See story on page 431.)

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The House Committee on Agriculture will hold hearings at various points in the country on the long-range agricultural program. (Further details on page 433.)

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Subcommittee Appointed to Study Farm Labor Situation

In the course of the N.C.A. Legislative Committee's discussion of next year's program, at its meeting on October 16, a motion was adopted under which a subcommittee was appointed to canvas the entire farm labor situation. The subcommittee is composed of Earl E. Goelzer, Chairman of the Association's Manpower Committee, O. L. Maxey, J. B. Weix, E. W. Montell, Luke F. Beckman, and John F. McGovern, Chairman of the N.C.A. Legislative Committee. A report by the subcommittee will be submitted to the Board at its meeting on November 14.

Canned Vegetable Demand

The high level of food and other prices anticipated this fall and winter is expected to favor consumption of canned vegetables, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported this week. An increased rate of consumption of canned vegetables would tend to avoid any excessive carry-over of canned stocks at the beginning of the 1948-49 vegetable pack season. Assuming a fairly normal carry-over stock position next spring, commercial processors should feel much more confident about the need for another year's large pack than they did in the spring of 1947 when commercial stocks in the hands of packers and wholesale distributors were considerably unbalanced, with stocks of some items too large and of others too small. At the same time, processors realize that most of the 1948 pack will be moving into consumption in 1949, the outlook for which is still uncertain, USDA explained.

Total demand for vegetables grown for commercial processing in 1948 is expected to be about as strong as in 1947, and the quantity grown for processing may equal or exceed this year's production of certain crops, particularly snap beans, beets, cabbage for kraut, and pimientos. The quality of canned and frozen vegetable packs in 1948 probably will show further improvement over that available during the (See *Canned Vegetable Demand High*, page 433)

Campbell Addresses Michigan Canners Fall Meeting

The second of the State canners association meetings was held this week with the annual fall meeting of the Michigan Canners Association on October 17 at the Rowe Hotel, in Grand Rapids, Mich. Secretary Carlos Campbell represented the Association, elaborating on information the Association has been compiling as to the position of canned foods in the current price structure. The N.C.A. issued a press release based on the findings of a survey of representative markets, details of which were presented to the Michigan canners in the address (See *Michigan Fall Meeting*, page 432)

BAE Predicts Slight Reduction in 1947 Processing Crops

A slight reduction in the 1947 production of fruits and vegetables grown for processing, as compared with last year's record output, was forecast late last week by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. BAE states crop prospects for tomatoes are now slightly better than were indicated on September 1; the outlook for sweet corn is a little less favorable than a month earlier; and prospective 1947 lima bean production is a record high. Indicated

Raw Product Statistics

REDUCTION IN 1947 PROCESSING CROPS

(Continued from page 427)

production of cabbage grown for kraut on contracted acreage will be about 70 percent less than in 1946. Only 66,000 tons of beets, the smallest production since 1939, and a 3 percent reduction in the pimiento crop, are in prospect, BAE explained.

Deciduous fruit production is now estimated 6 percent less than last year's record, but still 12 percent above average. Commercial apples totaled 5 percent less than last year, but about average; peaches are 3 percent less than last year's record, but 33 percent above average; pears are a record high and grapes a near record; plums are less than last year, but above average; prunes are 13 percent below last year and 6 percent below average.

The prospective total for 1947-48 citrus crops is slightly less than the 1946-47 total. Oranges are indicated about 6 percent less than last season and grapefruit about 6 percent more, BAE said.

Referring to crop conditions in general, BAE pointed out that, "Harvest reports up to October 1 indicate fulfillment of prospects for relatively heavy total crop production in 1947. Present indications are for a total crop volume 5 percent smaller than last year's record, but only 1 percent below the average for 1942-46—the best five years in American history." The 1947 crop is expected to be 20 percent above the 1923-32 average, the agency declared.

Further details by commodities as summarized from the BAE report are as follows:

Citrus

October 1 conditions indicate 49.2 million boxes of early and midseason oranges. The total of these varieties for the past season was a record high of 54.3 million boxes. Grapefruit production in 1947-48 is expected to be only slightly less than the record crop of 1945-46 and about 6 percent above last season's crop. Florida has prospects of about 31 million boxes and Texas 25 million boxes. Production in 1946-47 was 29 million boxes in Florida and 23.3 million boxes in Texas.

Commercial Apples

The United States apple crop in commercial areas is estimated at 112,910,000 bushels. This is 5 percent below the 1946 crop of 119,410,000 bushels and compares with the 1936-45 average of 112,896,000 bushels. Compared with last year the Eastern States have about a fourth smaller crop. The Northeast has about the same production as in 1946, or about average. The Central States have an increase of 5 percent and the Western region 10 percent over 1946. This year the Western States have 46 percent of the Nation's apple crop and the State of Washington 30 percent, in comparison with 39 and 27 percent respectively last year.

Peaches

Peaches showed a further slight decline during September and the crop is now estimated at 83,857,000 bushels compared with the record 1946 crop of 86,643,000 bushels and the 10-year average of 62,936,000 bushels. California clingstones are estimated at 21,252,000 bushels—8 percent less than last year but 34 percent above average. California freestones, at 13,043,000 bushels, are 7 percent less than last year but 30 percent above average.

Plums and Prunes

California plum production is estimated at 75,000 tons in comparison with 100,000 tons last year and the 10-year average of 71,500 tons. Total production of prunes for all purposes in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho is estimated at 92,500 tons (fresh basis) compared with 152,600 last year and the 10-year average of 130,580 tons. In Washington, Oregon, and Idaho 56,700 tons were sold fresh this year—15 percent more than last year. A total of 25,000 tons were commercially canned and 1,000 tons frozen in comparison with 57,890 tons canned and 6,210 tons frozen in 1946.

Pears

Prospects for pears in the Pacific Coast States continued to improve during September, more than offsetting small declines in some eastern States. Production is estimated at a record of 35,048,000 bushels—2 percent more than the previous record in 1946 and 19 percent above average. Bartletts for the three Pacific Coast States total 20,340,000 bushels—slightly more than the 1946 total and 27 percent more than average. Fall and winter pears for these three States total 7,563,000 bushels—1 percent less than last year but 36 percent above average.

Cranberries

Cranberry prospects for 1947 declined somewhat during September. Production is now estimated at 743,300 barrels—13 percent below the large 1946 crop of 857,100 barrels but 16 percent above average.

Sweetpotatoes

The indicated sweetpotato crop of 59,208,000 bushels is 11 percent smaller than last year's crop of 66,807,000 bushels and 8 percent below average. Growers are harvesting the smallest acreage since 1928, but the national yield is about 4 bushels above average.

Dry Beans

A dry bean crop of 16,314,000 bags (100-pound bags, uncleaned basis) is indicated by October 1 reports. This is 3 percent higher than the 1946 crop of 15,797,000 bags and slightly more than the 10-year average production of 16,312,000 bags. The current preliminary estimate is 345,000 bags below the September 1 forecast. Detailed production figures by States will be shown in a later issue of the INFORMATION LETTER.

The following tables, with the exception of cabbage for kraut, show the comparisons between the 1946 and 1947 acreages and last year's production as against this year's indicated output by commodities and by areas. Figures shown in the table for cabbage for kraut, show only that portion of the crop grown on contracted acreage during 1946 and 1947, and do not include comparisons for the total crop for either year.

The statistics on fruits shown in the following table are taken from BAE's October crop report and show only the total production of fruits for all purposes, since BAE, as a rule, does not show the differences between fruits for processing and for fresh market usage:

Estimated Fruit Production

Commodity	1946	1947 Indicated
	1,000 bushels	*1,000 bushels*
Apples (commercial)		
Eastern States	53,393	41,034
Central States	18,987	19,950
Western States	47,030	51,926
Total	119,410	112,910
Peaches		
California, clingstone	23,085	21,252
California, freestone	14,001	13,043
Washington-Oregon	3,429	3,621
Other States	46,128	45,941
Total U.S. (all peaches)	86,643	83,857
Pears		
California Bartlett	11,168	12,209
Oregon Bartlett	2,335	1,975
Washington Bartlett	6,750	6,156
Other States	14,194	14,708
Total U.S. (all pears)	34,447	35,048

Estimated Fruit Production—(Continued)

Commodity	1946	1947 Indicated
	Tons	*Tons*
Apricots		
California	306,000	163,000
Washington	27,300	28,000
Utah	5,400	5,000
Plums		
California	100,000	75,000
Michigan	6,000	4,300
Prunes		
Idaho	22,400	35,500
Eastern Washington	19,800	19,100
Western Washington	9,300	4,000
Eastern Oregon	18,100	18,900
Western Oregon	83,000	15,000
Cranberries	*Barrels*	*Barrels*
Total U. S.	857,100	743,300

Crop and State	1946	Indic. 1947
	1,000 boxes	*1,000 boxes*
Oranges:		
California, all	53,670	.....
Navels and misc.	19,670	18,600
Valencias	34,000	.....
Florida, all	53,700	49,500
Early and midseason	30,500	26,500
Valencias	23,200	23,000
Texas, all	5,000	5,600
Early and midseason	3,150	3,360
Valencias	1,850	2,240
Arizona, all	1,200	1,060
Navels and misc.	600	480
Valencias	600	580
Louisiana, all	410	260
Five States	113,980	.....
Total early and midseason	54,350	49,200
Total Valencias	59,650	.....
Tangerines:		
Florida	4,700	4,300
All oranges and tangerines:		
Five States	118,680	.....
Grapefruit:		
Florida, all	29,000	31,000
Seedless	14,000	14,000
Other	15,000	17,000
Texas, all	23,300	25,000
Arizona, all	4,100	4,100
California, all	3,240	.....
Desert Valleys	1,240	1,200
Other	2,000	.....
Four States	59,640	.....
Lemons:		
California	13,700	.....
Limes:		
Florida	170	200

Cabbage for Kraut

(CONTRACT ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION ON CONTRACT ACREAGE)

State	1946	1947	1946	Indic. 1947
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
New York	2,600	600	41,600	5,700
Ohio	1,950	900	23,800	7,200
Indiana	1,510	.....	12,100	.....
Illinois	.....	.....	.....	.....
Michigan	670	250	6,200	2,200
Wisconsin	4,100	1,700	45,500	15,300
Minnesota	90	100	1,000	800
Colorado	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	370	150	4,100	1,650
Other States[1]	1,150	1,000	13,100	10,600
U. S. Total	12,440	4,700	147,400	43,450

[1] Florida, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Virginia.

Sweet Corn for Processing

State	1946	1947	1946	Indic. 1947
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
Maine	11,800	11,400	41,300	42,200
N. H.	410	360	1,600	1,300
Vermont	760	780	1,800	1,600
N. Y.	27,500	28,000	66,000	61,600
Pa.	12,200	13,000	22,000	31,200
Ohio	22,600	22,500	49,700	42,800
Indiana	32,000	36,000	64,000	61,200
Illinois	72,600	76,000	174,200	129,200
Mich.	3,300	3,500	4,600	5,600
Wis.	100,000	102,500	210,000	235,800
Minn.	78,900	85,000	220,900	195,500
Iowa	39,600	35,000	114,800	52,500
Nebr.	2,400	2,700	6,200	3,800
Del.	4,600	4,400	11,500	11,900
Md.	39,500	36,000	86,900	82,800
Va.	440	500	1,100	1,400
Idaho	9,000	9,200	30,600	28,500
Utah	2,900	4,100	9,900	14,800
Wash.	15,800	16,000	56,900	62,400
Oreg.	12,000	12,800	33,600	44,800
Other States[1]	8,000	7,560	21,200	19,400
U.S.Total	406,310	507,300	1,228,800	1,130,300

[1] Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, New Jersey, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming.

Tomatoes for Processing

State	1946	1947	1946	Indic. 1947
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
N. Y.	27,400	27,000	175,400	145,800
N. J.	37,100	39,000	218,900	288,600
Pa.	34,200	34,500	99,200	238,000
Ohio	33,900	35,000	257,600	147,000
Indiana	101,800	98,000	529,400	480,200
Illinois	14,400	16,000	100,800	80,000
Mich.	7,900	8,500	56,100	37,400
Wis.	1,000	1,200	5,700	5,500
Iowa	3,000	2,500	17,100	3,800
Mo.	9,400	9,500	32,900	16,200
Del.	11,800	11,200	37,800	58,200
Md.	43,500	46,000	139,200	243,800
Va.	29,400	26,000	88,200	132,600
S. C.	2,600	3,000	5,200	5,100
Florida	2,350	1,800	8,500	5,000
Ky.	3,800	3,400	12,200	10,200
Tenn.	3,100	3,000	6,200	8,100
Ark.	16,000	20,000	51,200	28,000
Okla.	3,000	2,700	11,400	7,800
Texas	28,900	10,300	80,900	26,800
Colo.	4,800	4,000	28,800	27,600
Utah	7,500	8,100	66,800	74,500
Calif.	134,400	138,000	1,330,600	1,319,200
Other States[1]	5,300	4,900	20,800	20,600
U.S.Total	566,640	551,600	3,380,900	3,410,000

[1] Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington, and West Virginia.

Pimientos

State	1946	1947	1946	Indic. 1947
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
California	770	660	4,700	2,640
Georgia	13,000	16,500	18,460	19,800
Total	13,770	17,160	23,160	22,440

Green Lima Beans for Processing

State	1946	1947	1946	Indic. 1947
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
New York	810	1,000	380	450
New Jersey	12,800	13,000	8,770	6,500
Pennsylvania	3,800	3,800	1,940	2,380
Ohio	1,000	1,000	370	380
Michigan	3,320	3,500	1,560	1,400
Wisconsin	3,800	4,700	3,230	2,830
Delaware	12,800	14,000	8,770	9,800
Maryland	2,800	2,800	1,540	1,400
Virginia	2,700	2,300	1,460	1,260
Utah	250	100	150	70
Washington	350	200	230	150
California	7,990	13,620	8,190	13,620
Other States[1]	14,860	16,480	8,020	7,510
U. S. Total	67,280	76,500	44,610	47,740

[1] Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Tennessee.

Beets for Canning

State	1946	1947	1946	Indic. 1947
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
New York	3,000	1,800	37,500	14,400
New Jersey	360	300	6,100	2,800
Indiana	200	100	1,100	500
Michigan	1,150	400	6,400	2,400
Wisconsin	6,300	4,000	51,000	27,200
Oregon	2,000	1,100	13,300	9,500
Other States[1]	2,750	1,700	15,400	9,200
U. S. Total	15,960	9,400	135,800	66,000

[1] California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Washington.

Fish Statistics

Alaska Salmon Pack Report

The following table, prepared from preliminary statistics compiled by the Fish and Wildlife Service, shows the pack of Alaska canned salmon, by regions and varieties, through September 30, 1947, as compared with a similar period in 1946:

Districts	Season to Sept. 30, 1947	Season to Sept. 28, 1946
	Cases	*Cases*
Western Alaska	1,407,664	694,464
Central Alaska	1,788,474	1,728,062
Southeastern Alaska	1,044,010	1,454,480
Total	4,240,148	3,877,006
Species		
King	54,373	31,874
Red	1,876,835	1,040,747
Pink	1,717,971	2,041,636
Chum	450,616	578,737
Coho	140,353	184,012
Total	4,240,148	3,877,006

Frozen and Cured Fish Stocks In Cold Storage Are Reported

Holdings of frozen and cured fish in cold storage on October 1, 1947, totaled 165,129,000 pounds, as compared with September 1, 1947, holdings of 163,681,000 pounds, and the October 1, 1946, stocks of 177,263,000 pounds, the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of Interior has reported. The following table lists, by varieties, the quantities of frozen and cured fish held in cold storage during the respective periods:

SPECIES	Oct. 1, 1947	Sept. 1, 1947	Oct. 1, 1946
	1,000 lbs.	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*
Salt-water fish:			
Bait and animal food	2,089	2,209	1,755
Bluefish	152	121	171
Butterfish	392	451	426
Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, whole	1,281	1,092	1,291
Croakers	1,656	2,317	747
Eels	132	130	139
Fillets(miscellaneous)	24,515	23,038	31,022
Flounders (inc. fillets)	1,828	1,867	2,999
Halibut	23,202	25,421	23,378
Herring, sea	1,042	1,301	2,098
Mackerel (Boston) (inc. fillets)	7,638	7,874	3,388
Mullet	272	382	971
Sablefish (black cod)	2,988	3,062	6,791
Salmon (all species)	12,990	11,201	19,495
Scup (Porgies)	846	948	969
Sea trout (weakfish, gray and spotted)	461	539	731
Shad and shad roe	436	453	672
Smelts (sea)	777	820	1,265
Swordfish	841	813	1,092
Whiting (inc. fillets)	17,492	17,097	12,065
Miscellaneous salt-water fish	15,411	15,760	13,116
Fresh-water fish:			
Bait and animal food	371	791	395
Blue pike and sauger (inc. fillets)	128	63	96
Catfishand bullheads	218	267	174
Chubs	428	390	495
Lake herring & cisco (inc. fillets)	660	660	2,639
Lake trout	515	410	506
Pickerel, jacks or yellow jacks	73	75	58
Sturgeon and spoonbill cat	261	230	453
Suckers	18	25	32
Tullibee	298	299	308
Yellow perch (inc. fillets)	246	223	320
Yellow pike (or walleye) (inc. fillets)	153	124	122
Whitefish	1,072	973	1,668
Miscellaneous fresh-water fish	1,170	1,181	1,526
Shellfish:			
Lobster tails (spiny lobster)	356	342	408
Scallops	1,835	1,758	1,904
Shrimp	7,688	4,632	7,467
Squid	1,866	1,737	1,415
Miscellaneous shellfish	1,935	1,854	2,518
Frozen fish, total	135,732	132,930	147,085
Cured fish, total	29,397	30,751	30,178
Total, all fish	165,129	163,681	177,263

Canned Food Statistics

1947 Pack of Canned Red Pitted Cherries Smaller than 1946

The 1947 pack of canned red pitted cherries totaled 2,396,834 actual cases or about 22 percent less than the 1946 pack of 3,085,872 cases, the Association's Division of Statistics reported this week. The following table, which compares the 1947 pack by areas and by can sizes, gives a detailed report on the packs for the two previous years:

State	No. 2	No. 10	Misc.	Total
	Cases	*Cases*	*Cases*	*Cases*
1947 PACK RED PITTED CHERRIES				
New York and Pennsylvania	236,039	77,622	.....	313,661
Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio	1,502,201	465,202	8,157	1,975,560
Western [1]	47,006	60,607	.....	107,613
Total	1,785,246	603,431	8,157	2,396,834
1946 PACK RED PITTED CHERRIES				
New York and Pennsylvania	139,936	75,508	.....	215,444
Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio	1,686,067	1,067,775	10,501	2,764,343
Western [1]	22,900	83,185	.....	106,085
Total	1,848,903	1,226,468	10,501	3,085,872
1945 PACK RED PITTED CHERRIES				
New York and Pennsylvania	48,780	174,407	.....	223,187
Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio	174,656	669,524	.....	844,180
Western [1]	42,302	166,748	24,073	233,123
Total	265,738	1,010,679	24,073	1,300,490

[1] Includes Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, Montana, Washington, Oregon and Utah.

Stocks and Shipments of Canned Red Pitted Cherries

Stocks of red pitted cherries in canners hands on October 1 amounted to 646,208 actual cases, the Association's Division of Statistics reports. The October 1 stocks and shipments shown below are based on reports from canners who packed about 92 percent of the 1947 pack, together with estimates for those canners who did not send in reports on their packs.

Canners Stocks and Shipments Canned Red Pitted Cherries—October 1, 1947

State	24/2	6/10	Misc.	Total
	Cases	*Cases*	*Cases*	*Cases*
New York and Pennsylvania:				
July 1, 1947, stocks	.....	.....	.....	.....
1947 pack	236,039	77,622	.....	313,661
Supply	236,039	77,622	.....	313,661
October 1, 1947, stocks	35,962	34,955	.....	70,917
Shipments, July 1 to October 1	200,077	42,667	.....	242,744
Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio:				
July 1, 1947, stocks	10,423	40,825	.....	51,248
1947 pack	1,502,201	465,202	8,157	1,975,560
Supply	1,512,624	506,027	8,157	2,026,808
October 1, 1947, stocks	322,473	195,644	.....	518,117
Shipments, July 1 to October 1	1,190,151	310,383	8,157	1,508,691
Western States:				
July 1, 1947, stocks	.....	.....	.....	.....
1947 pack	47,006	60,607	.....	107,613
Supply	47,006	60,607	.....	107,613
October 1, 1947, stocks	19,156	38,018	.....	57,174
Shipments, July 1 to October 1	27,850	22,589	.....	50,439
Total United States:				
July 1, 1947, stocks	10,423	40,825	.....	51,248
1947 pack	1,785,246	603,431	8,157	2,396,834
Supply	1,795,669	644,256	8,157	2,448,082
October 1, 1947, stocks	377,591	268,617	.....	646,208
Shipments, July 1 to October 1	1,418,078	375,639	8,157	1,801,874

Other Statistics

Rail and Boat Shipments of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Rail and boat shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables (exclusive of white potatoes) totaled 13,051 cars for the week ending October 11, 1947, according to a report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. These shipments were about 12 percent less than those for the previous week of 14,908 cars and about 20 percent less than shipments for the corresponding week of last year.

The following table, compiled from a report of the USDA's Production and Marketing Administration, gives carlot shipments of certain fresh fruits and vegetables for the week ending October 11 with comparisons:

	—Week ending—		
VEGETABLES	Oct. 11, 1947	Oct. 4, 1947	Oct. 12, 1946
	Carloads	*Carloads*	*Carloads*
Beans, snap and lima	16	11	75
Tomatoes	636	918	1,274
Green peas	29	45	32
Spinach	6	21	3
Others	4,602	5,189	4,073
FRUITS			
Citrus	2,002	1,869	1,676
Other	5,760	6,855	8,370
Total	13,051	14,908	16,403

Industrial Production and Worker Employment Rise

Industrial production and production worker employment during August were slightly higher than the level of the preceding month and of the corresponding month of 1946. The index of production of processed fruits and vegetables of 128 in August of the year, although higher than in June, remained considerably below last year.

The advance in wholesale prices was reflected in further increases in the indices of wholesale prices for all commodities and all foods for August with the latter showing the greater increase over the July indices. Retail food prices for mid-August will not be available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics until late this month and will be carried in the INFORMATION LETTER at that time.

The following table, showing selected indices for August, 1947, with comparisons, was derived from indices published by the Federal Reserve Board and the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

Index of	Aug., 1947	July, 1947	Aug., 1946
	1935-39 = 100		
Industrial production[1]—all	182	177	178
Processed fruits & vegetables	128	125	155
Production worker employment—all manufacturing industries	157	153	151
Wholesale prices:			
All commodities	191	187	160
All foods	218	211	188

[1] Seasonally adjusted.

USDA Meat Production Report

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended October 4 totaled 299 million pounds, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This production was 5 percent above the 285 million pounds produced during the preceding week and over three and one-half times the 84 million pounds recorded for the corresponding week of last year when OPA slaughter controls were in effect.

Standards

Canners to Discuss Standards

Since many of the canners and officers of State associations, who are interested in food standards developments will be present at the Board of Directors meeting in Chicago, Ill., meetings have been called to discuss Food and Drug standards for canned asparagus, canned corn and canned green and wax beans. Three separate meetings will be held on November 11 and 12 at the Bismarck Hotel. Those interested in standards for canned asparagus will meet at 10 a.m., November 11. The studies that were carried on during the past season will be discussed with the group. Representative samples will be open for examination and comment.

A similar meeting of the canners who are interested in corn canning will start at 3 p.m. on November 11. The progress that has been made in preparation for the hearing since the last meeting of this group will be discussed. Samples will be opened for the committee to examine and evaluate.

Canners of green and wax beans will meet at 11 a.m. on November 12.

Frozen Food Statistics

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Are Increasing Slightly

Stocks of frozen fruits in cold storage on October 1, 1947, totaled 409 million pounds, according to a report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This compares with 408 million pounds a month earlier and 502 million pounds in cold storage a year earlier.

The net increase in holdings of frozen fruits during September was only one million pounds as compared with the September, 1946, increase of 42 million pounds.

Frozen vegetable stocks in cold storage October 1, 1947, totaled 354 million pounds compared with 327 million a month earlier and 318 million on October 1, 1946. The net increase in frozen vegetable holdings during September amounted to 27 million pounds compared with 33 million during September last year and the average September increase of 24 million pounds.

Frozen fruit and vegetable stocks by commodities for October 1, 1947, with comparisons for previous periods, as reported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, are shown below:

	Oct. 1, 1947	Sept. 1, 1947	Oct. 1, 1946
FROZEN FRUITS	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*
Apples	28,394	31,075	29,517
Apricots	21,833	22,902	38,857
Blackberries	22,346	19,603	26,565
Blueberries	12,186	9,665	15,644
Cherries	74,364	80,852	82,514
Grapes	6,266	3,302	12,067
Peaches	48,979	41,307	64,236
Plums and prunes	14,264	10,469	24,588
Raspberries	28,624	30,734	28,447
Strawberries	60,998	69,199	59,387
Young, Logan, Boysen	17,625	17,366	16,552
Fruit juices, purees	22,345	21,509	24,888
All other fruits	50,950	50,136	78,652
Total	409,174	408,119	501,914
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus	17,062	17,903	21,849
Beans, lima	38,761	16,555	22,251
Beans, snap	29,778	25,645	30,843
Broccoli	9,121	9,712	12,723
Brussels sprouts	4,453	4,700	2,414
Cauliflower	6,095	6,562	4,292
Corn, sweet	36,633	22,571	32,214
Peas, green	155,763	139,357	132,984
Pumpkin and squash	7,287	7,062	4,721
Spinach	17,914	21,904	19,748
All other vegetables	31,178	34,632	33,652
Total	354,045	326,603	317,691

Meetings

Special Corn Canners Meeting

A special corn canners meeting is being scheduled jointly by the Tri-State Packers Association and the Corn Canners Service Bureau at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Md., for the purpose of discussing important problems facing the sweet corn industry.

Co-chairmen for the meeting will be Samuel E. W. Friel of S. E. W. Friel, Queenstown, Md., chairman of the Tri-State Corn Canners Group, and T. Stran Summers of Charles G. Summers, Jr., Inc., New Freedom, Pa., president of Corn Canners Service Bureau.

A program schedule follows:

10:45 a. m.—"Mechanical Corn Harvesting," Dr. C. H. Mahoney, Director, Raw Products Bureau, National Canners Association; 11:45 a. m.—"Sweet Corn and the Japanese Beetle," Dr. George C. Lankford, Entomologist, University of Maryland; 12:30 p. m.—Luncheon; 1:30 p. m.—"Corn Borer," Dr. George C. Decker, Head, Section on Economic Entomology, University of Illinois; 3:00 p. m.—"Corn Earworm," Prof. Donald MacCreary, Entomologist, University of Delaware; and 4:00 p. m.—Adjournment or other discussion.

Forthcoming Meetings

October 23-24—National Pickle Packers Association, Fall Meeting, Continental Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

October 24—Tri-State Packers Association, Corn Canners Meeting, Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Md.

October 31-November 1—Texas Canners Association, Annual Convention, White-Plaza and Driscoll Hotels, Corpus Christi, Tex.

November 3-14—University of Wisconsin, Cannery Fieldmen's Course, Madison, Wis.

November 4-6—Association of Pacific Fisheries and Northwest Branch of National Canners Association, 34th Annual Convention, Empress Hotel, Victoria, British Columbia.

November 6-7—Ozark Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Connor Hotel, Joplin, Mo.

November 10-11—Wisconsin Canners Association, 48rd Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis.

November 10-12—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., 39th Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, N. Y.

November 12-14—National Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Board of Directors, Palmer House, Chicago, Ill.

November 17-18—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 33rd Annual Meeting, Yorktowne Hotel, York, Pa.

November 18—National Canners Association and Pennsylvania Canners Association, Tomato Disease Conference, Yorktowne Hotel, York, Pa.

November 20-21—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, Annual Convention, Savery Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa.

November 20-21—Indiana Canners Association, Fall Convention, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.

November 24-25—Illinois Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Bismarck Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

December 3-5—Georgia Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Sheridan Bon Air Hotel, Augusta, Ga.

December 3-5—Tri-State Packers Association, 43rd Annual Convention, Traymore Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

December 9-10—Ohio Canners Association, Annual Convention, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

December 11-12—Association of New York State Canners, Inc., 62nd Annual Meeting, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y.

December 17—Minnesota Canners Association, Annual Convention, St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul, Minn.

January 7-9—Northwest Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Oreg.

January 11-13—National Preservers Association, Annual Meeting, Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

January 13-17—National Food Brokers Association, Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 16-17—National Pickle Packers Association, Winter Meeting, Hotel New Yorker, New York, N. Y.

January 17-23—Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Annual Exhibit, Convention Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 18-23—National Canners Association, Annual Convention, Dennis, Jefferson, Marlborough-Blenheim, President, Ritz-Carlton, Shelburne, and Traymore Hotels, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 19-22—National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 26-27—Canners League of California, 1948 Annual Meeting, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, Calif.

March 15-18—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Convention, Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

Illinois Canners to Meet

The annual fall meeting of the Illinois Canners Association will be held in the Bismarck Hotel at Chicago, on November 24 and 25. Among the features of the meeting will be a luncheon on November 24, and a dinner-dance the evening of that day. Further details of the program will be announced shortly, W. D. Jones, secretary of the Illinois Canners Association states.

State Secretaries to Meet

The Association of State Secretaries has scheduled a business meeting for November 12, at the Palmer House, Chicago, according to an announcement by M. A. Clevenger, president. Details of the program will be announced later.

MICHIGAN FALL MEETING

(Concluded from page 427)

which was entitled "One Year After OPA." Summary of the press release follows:

Canned fruits and vegetables can be bought at lower prices than a year ago, according to a survey of retail prices in 14 representative markets made by the National Canners Association of Washington, D. C., and reported to the fall meeting of the Michigan Canners Association, October 17.

The presentation included comparative figures revealing that in the majority of instances canned food prices are down from last year's level, when price ceilings for most canned items were still being reflected.

The speech summarized the findings of the retail price study, which compared prices of October 1, 1946, with October 1, 1947, for the same grade, brand, can size and store, as follows: "Of the 10 canned vegetables studied, all but one were lower in price than a year ago and of the eight canned fruits all but two were selling at lower prices."

Canned vegetable prices compiled in the survey averaged one and nine-tenths cents per can below the corresponding date last year. The reductions in price ranged from four cents per can for asparagus to one and three-tenths cents per can for spinach, with other items falling in between. The price reductions in canned fruits ranged from twelve and eight-tenths cents per can for cherries to six-tenths of a cent per can for yellow cling peaches, and the average reduction in the eight fruits studied amounted to two and eight-tenths cents per can, he stated. Citrus juices showed the largest decline, averaging seventeen and two-tenths cents per 46-ounce can.

It was pointed out that the declines in prices for Fancy grades of canned foods were, for the most part, less than for the lower grades, and stated that "this is a reflection of the peculiar characteristics of demand. The large increase in consumer purchasing power during the year has created a significantly stronger demand for the better grades and higher-priced products." This peculiar characteristic of demand, as it has affected food prices in general, he termed as "the cost of high living rather than the high cost of living."

CANNED VEGETABLE DEMAND HIGH

(Concluded from page 427)

war, as packers will be trying to gain increased brand recognition, USDA said.

Total supplies of canned vegetables in the 1948-49 pack year are expected to be about as large as in the 1947-48 pack year. Combined stocks in the hands of packers and wholesale distributors at the beginning of the 1948-49 pack season probably will be no larger than a year earlier, and much better balance is expected among the several commodities, in contrast to the beginning of the 1947-48 pack season, when stocks of some items were very low while other items were in surplus, the report stated.

Consumer demand for canned vegetables is expected to continue very strong at least for the first half of 1948. Demand thereafter will reflect the upward trend in consumption of canned vegetables but also will be influenced by the course of consumers' incomes and the prices of other foods, especially fresh vegetables, USDA continued.

Total pack of canned vegetables in 1947-48 is expected to be only moderately smaller than in 1946-47, but with rather wide variations between individual crops as indicated earlier. Total supplies will permit a continued record or near-record rate of consumption per capita. Quality, on the whole, is probably better than that of recent years, USDA explained.

In commenting on several specific processed commodities, USDA stated:

Individual Commodities Discussed

"Stocks of canned snap beans are large but not excessive in view of the smaller pack expected this year. Demand for snap beans for processing in 1948 is expected to be as strong as in 1947.

"Current stocks of canned sweet corn are several times larger than a year earlier, but are moderately lower than 1937-41 average. Demand in 1948 for sweet corn for processing is expected to be about as strong as in 1947.

"Demand in 1948 for tomatoes for processing is expected to be nearly as strong as in 1947. While combined processors' and wholesale distributors' stocks of canned tomato juice (and combinations including tomato juice) this August 1 were more than four times the very low stocks held on August 1, 1946, they were only about two times the average carry-over stocks for the five pack years 1937-41. At least to some degree, larger stocks now than pre-war are to be expected, because of the rapidly increasing trend in total consumption of tomato juice in this country. Carry-over stocks of canned tomatoes this year, while four times those available for civilian distribution a year earlier, were less than half of 1937-41 average carry-over stocks.

"Carry-over stocks of canned peas this year were several times larger than during the war years, but only about 46 percent larger than average for 1937-41. In terms of total supply, the increased stocks are offset to a considerable extent by the reduced pack this year.

"Stocks of frozen peas on September 1 this year were about 159 million pounds, or about 20 million pounds larger than a year earlier. This is a much improved situation, from the standpoint of processors, than that existing just a month earlier when this year's stocks of 149 million pounds were 43 million pounds larger than in 1946.

"Demand for peas for processing in 1948 is expected to be about as strong as in 1947. With the high level of demand expected this fall and winter, consumption of canned and frozen peas probably will be somewhat larger than a year earlier.

"Stocks of canned sauerkraut on January 1, 1947 were approximately double the stocks a year earlier. Stocks on the carry-over date, September 1, 1947, are estimated to be close to the average for the years 1937-41.

"Demand for cabbage for kraut manufacture in 1948 is expected to be slightly stronger than in 1947. However, open-market supplies of cabbage available to processors in 1948 probably will be considerably larger than they have been in 1947, and prices received by growers may be moderately lower.

"Commercial production for processing this year is estimated to be a new record high for green lima beans and second-highest of record for pimientos, but less than half as large as last year for beets."

Congress

Hearings on Long-Range Farm Program Start This Week

The House Committee on Agriculture has begun hearings throughout the country to gather information as a basis for a long-range agricultural program. A subcommittee of the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee will begin hearings on the program next week. (Hearings were recently held by both committees in Washington, and were reported in last week's INFORMATION LETTER.)

The schedules of both committees are:

House Committee

Oct. 13—Durham, N. H.
Oct. 15—Lancaster, Pa.
Oct. 17—Rocky Mount, N. C.
Oct. 20—Montgomery, Ala.
Oct. 24—Madison, Wisc.
Oct. 27—Sioux City, Iowa
Oct. 29—Kansas City, Mo.
Nov. 1—Temple, Texas
Nov. 4—Fort Collins, Colo.
Nov. 8—Salt Lake City, Utah
Nov. 10—Spokane, Wash.
Nov. 17—Fresno, Calif.

Senate Subcommittee

Oct. 20—Peoria, Ill.
Oct. 22-3—Minneapolis, Minn.
Oct. 23—Sioux Falls, S. D.
Oct. 24-5—Des Moines, Iowa
Oct. 27-8—Denver, Colo.
Nov. 3—Springfield, Mass.
Nov. 5—Washington, D. C. (National Grange)
Nov. 7—Memphis, Tenn.
Nov. 10—Columbia, S. C.

Hearings to Resume on Minimum Wage Increase

A subcommittee of the House Committee on Education and Labor will hold hearings beginning October 20, on the proposed amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act to increase the minimum wage.

On October 20, the subcommittee will hear representatives of the Industrial Laundry Association, American Trucking Association, and the American Institute of Accountants. The day following, Leon Henderson and other professors or economists, will testify before the group.

In the second, third, and fourth weeks the subcommittee will hear representatives of labor and management. The fifth week will be given over to testimony by government officials.

Funds for Community Chest

The annual campaign to raise funds for The Community Chests of America is being conducted in the various communities throughout the United States sometime during the campaign months of October and November. The Community Chests offer 12,000 community services in thousands of American cities and towns. The total funds needed to support these Community Chests during the coming year will approximate $168,000,000.

H. J. Heinz, II, chairman of The Community Chests of America, has urged Nation-wide coordinated effort in meeting the financial needs of the Community Chests.

Raw Products

Tomato Plant Regulations

The 1948 regulations covering the production and handling of Georgia certified tomato plants have been issued and may be obtained from C. H. Alden, Director, Georgia Department of Entomology, Atlanta 3, Ga. The regulations contain definite practices which must be followed by growers before eligibility for certification can be established for the tomato plants. They prescribe practices which must be followed in selecting soil and seed; the methods of planting, spraying, and field inspection; certification; packing; etc., in the propagation of tomato plants.

Deaths

Fred Healy, Publisher, Dies

Fred A. Healy, 58, vice president and advertising director of the Curtis Publishing Company since 1930, died suddenly while attending the Army-Illinois football game in New York, N. Y., October 11. His work with the Curtis magazines brought him into contact with many of the national advertisers in the canning business and he was well informed on the broad aspects of this industry. Mr. Healy was in frequent attendance at the annual conventions of the National Canners Association.

He became manager of *The Country Gentleman* in 1921, serving for three years and then was transferred to Detroit, Mich., as Curtis manager there. In 1928, he took charge of the Curtis offices in New York City, and late that year went to the home office in Philadelphia, Pa.

Foreign Trade

Draft International Trade Organization Charter Ready

There has just been released by the State Department the official text of the draft Charter for an International Trade Organization as approved at a plenary session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Unemployment. The Committee has been in session at Geneva, Switzerland, ever since April 10 of this year.

The text does not constitute an official document of the United States Government nor of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations, the foreword says, but is a revision of preceding drafts. It is to be used as a basis for discussion at the United Nations Conference to be held in Havana, Cuba, on November 21.

Copies of what constitute up-to-date amendments of the draft Charter are available on application to the Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Cuban Tomato Exports

The success of Cuba's 1947-48 vegetable season will be determined largely by the control of late blight on tomatoes, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has reported. The acreage of tomatoes, according to present indications, will be somewhat less than last season, but the yield may be larger if blight can be checked. Cuba's tomato production for the coming season may be 2.5 million lugs, of which an estimated 1 million will be exported.

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